# Rhodora

#### JOURNAL OF

## THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANICAL CLUB

Vol. 17.

March, 1915.

No. 194.

## WASHINGTON AND MICHAUX.

C. S. SARGENT.

The first part of André Michaux's Journal of his travels in North America, covering the time from his arrival in this country in 1785 until his first visit to South Carolina in 1787, was unfortunately lost in the wreck of the ship in which Michaux returned to France, and little of his movements in the first years of his visit is known beyond the fact that he established a nursery in the neighborhood of New York from which he sent seeds and a large number of seedling trees back to France. The fact that during this time he paid a visit to Washington at Mt. Vernon seems to have generally escaped notice. The following extracts from Washington's unpublished Diary, now in the Library of Congress, may therefore be of interest to American botanists:

Monday, June 19, 1786.

"A Monsr. André Michaux, a Botanist sent by the Court of France to America (after having been only 6 weeks returned from India) came in a little before dinner with letters of introduction and recommendation from the Duke de Lauzen and Marqs. de la Fayette to me—he dined and returned afterwards to Alexandria, on his way to New York, from whence he had come; and where he was about to establish a Botanical Garden."

Thursday, June 29.

"Planted in one row between the Cherokee Plumb and the honey locust, back of the No. Garden adjoining the green House (where the Spanish Chestnuts had been placed and were rotten) 25 of the Paliurus,

very good to make hedges and inclosures for fields — Also in the section between the Work House and Salt House, adjoining the Pride of China Plants, and between the rows in which the Carolina laurel seeds had been sowed, 46 of the Pistatia nut in 3 rows — And in the places where the Hemlock pines had been planted and were dead, Et. & Wt. of the Garden gates, the seeds of the Piramidical Cyprus 75 in number — all of which with others were presented to me by Mr. Michaux, Botanist, to his Most Christian Majesty."

July 1st.

"Planted 4 of the Ramnus Tree (an evergreen) one on each side of the Garden gates — a peg with 2 notches drove down by them (Pegs No. 1 being by the Pyramidical Cyprus) — also planted 24 of the Philirea latifolio — (an evergreen shrub) in the Shrubberies by Pegs No. 3 — and 48 of the Cytire — a tree produced in a cold climate of quick growth, by pegs No. 4 — All these plants were given to me by Mr. Michaux."

ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

#### NOTES ON THE GENUS SABATIA.

S. F. BLAKE.

(Plate 112.)

1. Sabatia difformis L. Sp. i. 226 (1753). Chironia lanceolata Walt. Fl. Car. 95 (1788). Sabbatia corymbosa Baldw. ex Ell. Sk. i. 283 (1817). Sabbatia lanceolata <sup>1</sup> (Walt.) T. & G. ex Gray, Man. ed. 1. 356 (1848). Sabbatia difformis (L.) Druce, Bot. Exch. Club Rep. 1913, iii. pt. 5, 422 (1914), as to name-bringing synonym only.— The Clayton type of Swertia difformis L., which was based on Gronovius's "Gentiana foliis linearibus acuminatis, pedunculis longissimis nudis unifloris oppositis" (Fl. Virg. ed. 1. 30 (1739)), is in the British Museum and

<sup>1</sup> The name Sabbatia lanceolata first occurs in Raf. Fl. Tell. iii. 30 (1836), but is there merely a nomen without synonym.